

I. AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

At page 30, please amend the two consecutive paragraphs beginning on line 1 by replacing them with the following substitute paragraphs:

EXAMPLE 5

EFFECT OF TATA BOX MUTATION ON PROMOTER ACTIVITY

In order to optimize the function of the promoter its various versions of TATA boxes were tested for promoter activity. Promoter activity was tested experimentally in mice using ELISA to detect anti-hAAT, and luciferase assays. The highest gene expression level was observed when the TATA box sequence TATATAA (SEQ ID NO: 30) was the TFIID binding-site whereas, a mutation by deletion of the third T reduced the promoter activity to about 40% as shown in FIG. 2. This result suggests that at least some mutations of the TATA box sequence affecting the TFIID binding-site decreases promoter activity. One of ordinary skill, following the teachings herein will be able to optimize promoter/enhancers using this information.

EXAMPLE 6

EFFECT OF MULTIPLE TATA BOXES ON PROMOTER ACTIVITY

In another embodiment of the invention, the effect of multiple TATA boxes on promoter activity was tested. The promoter activity was tested experimentally in mice using ELISA to detect anti-hAAT, and luciferase assays. As demonstrated in FIG. 3, when three TATA boxes (TATATAATATATAATATATAA - SEQ ID NO: 38) are connected instead of a single TATATAA box, the promoter activity is reduced to about 50 %. Thus, the number of TATA boxes proved significant in regulating the promoter activity. This result indicates that, in at least some embodiments of the invention a single TATATAA box is required to achieve the highest promoter activity. One of ordinary skill, following the teachings herein will be able to optimize promoter/enhancers using this information.

Please replace the Sequence Listing and with the substitute Sequence Listing numbered pages 1-10 attached hereto as Appendix A.